

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of

Volker KETTLER et al

Attn: Applications

Serial No.: To be assigned

Filed: March 30, 2001

For: PARQUET BOARD

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to assigning a serial number and filing date to the above-identified application, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please substituted the attached one page Abstract (Attachment A) for the one originally filed with the international application.

The following change has been made:

Last line, delete "(Fig. 1)".

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please substitute the attached pages of the amended paragraphs of the specification (Attachment B) with the respective pages originally filed with the application.

The following amendments have been made:

Page 3, line 25, change "45₁" to read --45°--.

Page 4, line 5, change “60_i” to read --60°--.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute the attached pages of the claims (Attachment C) with the respective pages originally filed with the application.

The following amendments have been made:

Claim 1, line 3, change “characterized in that” to read --wherein--.

Claim 2, line 1, change “characterized in that” to read --wherein--.

Claim 3, line 1, change “or 2, characterized in that” to read --, wherein--.

Claim 4, line 1, change “one of the preceding claims, characterized in that” to read --claim 1, wherein--; and

line 2, change “frond” to read --front--.

Claim 5, line 1, change “one of the preceding claims, characterized in that” to read --claim 1, wherein--.

Claim 6, line 1, change “one of the preceding claims, characterized in that” to read --claim 1, wherein--.

Claim 7, line 1, change “one of the preceding claims, characterized in that” to read --claim 1, wherein--.

Claim 8, line 1, change “one of the preceding claims, characterized in that” to read --claim 1, wherein in a position--.

Claim 9, line 1, change “characterized in that” to read --wherein the--.

Claim 10, line 1, change “and 9, characterized in that” to read --, wherein--.

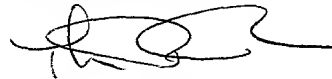
Claim 11, line 1, change “one of the preceding claims, characterized in that” to read --claim 1, wherein--.

Claim 12, line 1, change "one of claims 1 to 11, characterized in that" to read --claim 1,
wherein--.

REMARKS

By the foregoing amendment, applicants have reviewed and made typographical corrections
to the specification and eliminated the multiple dependent claims so as to minimize the government
filing fee, as well as to place the application in better form for examination under U.S. practice.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: March 30, 2001

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ATTACHMENT A

ABSTRACT

A parquet board with a groove and tongue edge profile comprising a projecting tongue (14) on at least one edge of each parquet board (10,12) and a receding groove (16) on at least one opposite edge of the parquet board. The top edge of the tongue (14) is provided with a projecting locking lip (24) running in the longitudinal direction of the tongue, and there is a corresponding locking recess (26) running in the longitudinal direction of the groove in the bottom edge of the groove-boundary-forming top groove cheek (28).

(Fig. 1)

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ATTACHMENT B

Page 3, sixth full paragraph:

Tongue 14 is correspondingly provided in its root portion, i.e. where it joins with left board 10, with a portion 40 of greater thickness which runs into the non-designated front, or outer, portion of tongue 14 via a tapered surface 42. The two tapered surfaces 38 and 42 are essentially contrived with the same angle of inclination of e.g. 45° in relation to the plane of the board. A slight gap is also preserved between these tapered surfaces when the two boards come into contact with each other in the top assembled position 22.

Page 4, second full paragraph:

The front end of bottom groove cheek 34 is also provided with a relatively steep, upwardly inclined tapered surface 44, which is angled upwards at e.g. 60° .

ATTACHMENT C

Clean Copy of Claims as Amended

1. A parquet board with a groove and tongue edge profile comprising a projecting tongue (14) on at least one edge of each parquet board (10,12) and a receding groove (16) on at least one opposite edge of the parquet board, wherein in that the top edge of tongue (14) is provided with a projecting locking lip (24) running in the longitudinal direction of the tongue, and in that a corresponding locking recess (26) running in the longitudinal direction of the groove is contrived in the bottom edge of the groove-boundary-forming top groove cheek (28).

2. The parquet board of claim 1, wherein the entry edge of the groove-boundary-forming top groove cheek (28) is provided with a tapered surface (30).

3. The parquet board of claim 1, wherein the edge of locking lip (24) closest to the free end of tongue (14) is provided with a tapered (32) or rounded surface.

4. The parquet board of claim 1, wherein at least one of the front ends (18,20) of the parquet boards projects forward above the groove and tongue (14, 16) towards the abutting board edge so that when assembled, the boards come into contact with each other in a position (22) in the top useful surface.

5. The parquet board of claim 1, wherein in the assembled position, there is a gap between tongue (14) and the back end of groove (16).

6. The parquet board of claim 1, wherein in the assembled position, there is at least a small gap between the edge of locking lip (24) disposed in the direction of the end groove (16) and the corresponding edge of the locking recess.

7. The parquet board of claim 1, wherein the groove (16) boundary-forming bottom groove cheek (34) is shorter than the top groove cheek (28).

8. The parquet board of claim 1, wherein towards the free end of the bottom groove cheek (34) there is a gradation (36) which widens the groove via a tapered surface (38).

9. The parquet board of claim 8, wherein the tongue (14) is provided in its root portion with a section (40) of greater thickness which runs into the outer portion of the tongue via a tapered surface (42).

10. The parquet board of claim 8, wherein in the assembled position, there is at least a small gap between tapered surfaces (38,42).

11. The parquet board of claim 1, wherein the parquet board is shaped as a slim, elongated rectangle, and in that the edge profile is provided on the opposite longitudinal sides with there being a corresponding wall profile of lower height on the front ends.

12. The parquet board of claim 1, wherein there is a tapered surface (46) at the outer end of the tongue, on its bottom side.